



A Quick Stroll thru the World of Sports Medicine **Ethics**

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Standards of
Medicine

vs

Goals of sport

The background is a blurred image of a stadium at night. Bright, out-of-focus lights from the stadium's floodlights are visible at the top and along the sides. The lower portion of the image shows a dense crowd of spectators, their faces and clothing appearing as a soft, colorful blur of orange, red, and blue. The overall atmosphere is one of a high-energy, large-scale event.

Any arena

Any level

Any age

Any time



Role of SM Doc vs Role of Fan

Welfare of Athlete vs Welfare of
Team/Organization

Welfare of Athlete vs Wishes of Athlete

Welfare of Athlete vs Wishes of
Family/Support Group

Athlete self-determination and responsibility

Factors and obstacles

- MONEY
- WHAT'S AT STAKE
- EMPLOYER/EMPLOYEE RELATIONSHIP
- INJURY
- PAST MEDICAL HISTORY
- AGE
- POINT IN CAREER
- MEDICAL UNDERSTANDING



Cases



13 YO FEMALE COMPETITIVE SWIMMER

Recently fallen off her times, lost interest

School performance has diminished

Parents very concerned – much investment

Lost 10 pounds in last 2 months

19 yo collegiate discus-thrower



Told he must increase strength and weight



Can you help him “stack” anabolic steroids?



Wants to be ‘safe’ and be monitored



Season starts in 9 months

18 yo male
gymnast

S/P neck fusion for injury
suffered 1 year ago

Neurosurgeon and TP agree
– career disqualification

Independent neurosurgeon
– cleared to participate

20 yo
Collegiate
Wrestler –
Herpes +

Recent discovery – Herpes +

No history of skin lesions

Ranked #2 in weight class in country

NCAA tourney begins in 2 days

No one else has knowledge of this

Case of the Rival Concussion

Covering a home high school FB game

Opposing player sustains a concussion with momentary LOC

Rapid recovery ensues and is asymptomatic within 15 minutes

Athlete is starting quarterback and best player on the team

Game is playoff; winner moves on

Opposing trainer says that “he’s good to go”

PMHx – has had 2 other mTBIs this season

25 yo
female
triathlete
with diffuse
anterior
thigh pain

- ▶ Expected to win qualifying triathlon in 1 day
- ▶ No pain on weight-bearing, but unrelenting pain after a mile of running (no pain swimming or biking)
- ▶ Xrays reveal a femoral neck fx
- ▶ Patient desires to run and is willing to take the risk
- ▶ Support people are urging her to run
- ▶ Parents are against her running

Case of the Pregnant Center

- ▶ 17 yo female star center on high school basketball team
- ▶ Presents with amenorrhea X 2 months
- ▶ Sexually active – boyfriend uses condoms
- ▶ Appropriate testing confirms a pregnancy
- ▶ She does not want her parents, boyfriend, coach, teammates, or school to know
- ▶ She wishes to compete this season which begins this week



20 yo male
basketball
player